



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

News Release

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR

CHIYOME LEINAALA FUKINO M.D.
DIRECTOR
Phone: (808) 586-4410
Fax: (808) 586-4444

For Immediate Release: March 29, 2006

06-22

DOH CONTINUES MONITORING WATER QUALITY

*STATE HEALTH AND TOURISM OFFICIALS WORK WITH HOTELS TO
ENSURE RESIDENT, GUEST, EMPLOYEE, HEALTH AND SAFETY*

HONOLULU - The Hawaii State Department of Health (DOH) Clean Water Branch (CWB) is working with the City to monitor water quality at stations in the Ala Wai along the beaches from Kewalo to Diamond Head following the discharge of sewage into the Ala Wai Canal.

Meanwhile, DOH and Tourism Liaison Marsha Wienert have been working with Waikiki hotels and visitor industry officials to alert guests and employees of the water quality along Wakiki Beach.

The CWB has studied the current flow information provided by the City Environmental Services and is sampling water at surf sites at 10 locations from Point Panic to the surf sites off Sheraton Hotel, as well as 6 beach stations. The City is monitoring the water at 5 stations in the Ala Wai and another 12 stations along the beaches from Kewalo to Diamond Head. Combined, the State and City are sampling 18 beach locations and 10 surf sites off Ala Moana and Waikiki. This is the first time that the DOH CWB is conducting surf site monitoring.

Signs warning people to stay out of the water have been posted from the spill site to Magic Island, Ala Wai Yacht Harbor and along shore fronting Ala Moana Bowl (parking lot area

(more)

Kahanamoku Lagoon). Warning signs were also posted today in Waikiki at Kahanamoku Beach and Fort DeRussy Beach fronting Hale Koa and the Hilton. Surfers were warned to stay out of surf areas from Point Panic to Pops in front of the Sheraton Waikiki after elevated levels of indicator bacteria were detected.

###

For information, contact:
Kurt Tsue
Communications Office
Phone: (808) 586-4402